



## THE PHYSICIAN'S *Bookshelf*

**SKIN SURGERY**—Ervin Epstein, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine (dermatology), Stanford University Medical School. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, 1956. 228 pages, 242 illustrations on 101 figures, \$7.50.

This book is a valuable and timely one, for "Skin Surgery" interests not only the dermatologist but all physicians who are called upon to surgically remove any of the defects of the skin.

Cold steel surgery, electrosurgery, cryosurgery, chemo-surgery, abrasive surgery and other approaches are ably dealt with by various authorities in these special fields.

Most of the procedures described can be done in the physician's office. However, the chapters dealing with skin grafting and oral plastic surgery describe procedures which generally are best done in the hospital by those who have special skill in plastic surgery or oral surgery.

In the reviewer's opinion one of the most valuable chapters is that on the chemo-surgery of the cutaneous malignancies. This method offers a method of removal which microscopically follows the extensions of every such cancer until it has been completely eradicated. We know of no other method which can as accurately tell when the entire growth has been removed.

The author is to be congratulated upon the development of this work which, as far as our knowledge goes, is the only one in its field.

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**THE HEMORRHAGIC DISORDERS**—A Clinical and Therapeutic Approach—Mario Stefanini, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine; and William Dameshek, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine. Grune & Stratton, New York, 1955. 368 pages, \$11.75.

This is probably the best book available on the hemorrhagic disorders. The wide experience of the authors in the laboratory and at the bedside are combined in a very readable volume. Before discussing the normal hemostatic process, a list of all the blood coagulation factors is presented together with the terms used in the book; this is very helpful in overcoming the confusion the coagulationists have brought upon themselves with each having a different name for the same factor. All hemorrhagic disorders are considered, with sections even on the bleeding tendency of obstetric accidents and dysproteinemia. In addition to descriptive text, there are many supplementary diagrams, charts and tables. The illustrations, both black and white and color, are good and numerous. In the appendix is an outline of screening tests to work out a bleeding problem, together with a description of methods. An interesting innovation is an addendum which brings each chapter up to publication time with a summary of very recent work. A bibliography of more than 750 articles is included. This book is a must for the hematologist, research worker, internist, clinical pathologist and any clinician faced with a bleeding problem.

**DOCTORS' OFFICES & CLINICS**—Medical and Dental—Paul Hayden Kirk and Eugene D. Sternberg. Reinhold Publishing Corporation 430 Park Avenue, New York 22, N. Y., 1955. 218 pages, \$12.75.

This is really an excellent book in an important field. There is a good section on the historical aspects of doctors' offices and some fairly penetrating philosophical observations, both of which are a pleasant surprise in an essentially technical work.

The pictures are fine, the plans clearly reproduced. The cost analysis will be most useful to those who are contemplating building. If there is a lack, it is in the field of the larger clinics. Though to be sure these organizations usually have their own architects and planners and stand less in need of the kind of advice furnished in this volume.

The whole book points up what everyone knows; viz., that doctors are highly individualistic and each individual requires special treatment. There can be with most doctors no prefabricated plan which he can use. There is still need for the architect on the scene cooperating with the doctor. But even with this in mind, any doctor or groups contemplating building should get this book. It will save him many times the purchase price.

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**FUNCTIONAL OTOTOLOGY**—The Practice of Audiology—Morris F. Heller, M.D., Assistant Attending Otolaryngologist for Audiology Clinic, Chief of the Audiology Clinic, The Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, Springer Publishing Company, Inc., 44 E. 23rd St., New York 10, N. Y., 1955. 225 pages, \$5.50.

This interesting little book is better than most books on audiology in one respect. Most of them are written in a confusing, highly technical terminology, so that one has to be a physicist or electronics engineer to understand. *Functional Otology* discusses such things as the testing of hearing by pure tones and by speech, hearing aids, speech ("lip") reading, voice and speech production, and similar subjects of audiology in a brief, clear, and accurate manner. While too elementary for the advanced audiologist, it would be of great help to the resident in otolaryngology wishing a basic survey of the subject, and to those physicians whose work touches on the deaf and hard of hearing and their problems.

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**YEAR BOOK OF DRUG THERAPY—1955-1956 Series**—Harry Beckman, M.D., Director, Department of Pharmacology, Marquette University Schools of Medicine and Dentistry. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois St., Chicago, 1956. 560 pages, \$6.00.

The Year Books of Drug Therapy are well done summaries of significant therapeutic literature which attempt to point a proper moral. The possessor has at his desk a review of significant therapy for the preceding year. As the volumes pile up they become an indicator of therapeutic progress.

This year's volume devotes the bulk of attention to cardiovascular diseases (and particularly to anticoagulant drugs), rheumatic disorders, chest diseases and neuropsychiatry.